DARK HORSE COMICS

ALIENS™

3 (of 4)
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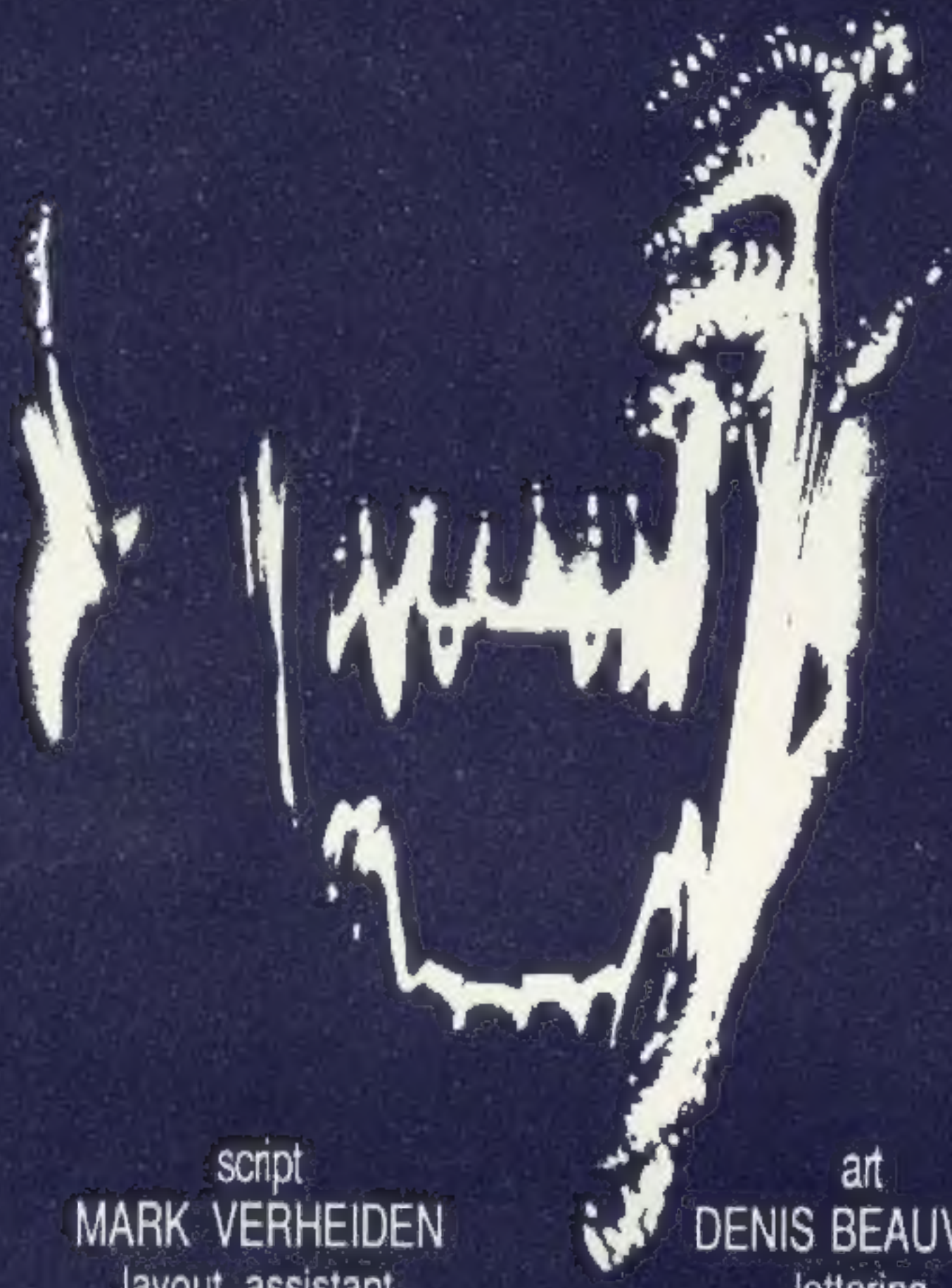
ALIENS™



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BASED ON THE CHARACTERS AND SITUATIONS IN THE 20TH CENTURY FOX FILM

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WHEN I JOINED THE MARINES, I WAS PROUD TO SERVE MY COUNTRY. THEY WANT THAT—THEY WANT YOU TO THINK YOU'RE DOING SOMETHING RIGHT AND NOBLE.
SOMETIMES YOU BELIEVE IT. SOMETIMES IT'S EVEN TRUE.
HE'S INSANE, YOU KNOW.
SPEARS THINKS HE CAN TURN THE ALIEN AGAINST ITS OWN KIND.
POWELL WAS SECOND IN COMMAND, REPORTING DIRECTLY TO GENERAL SPEARS. HE HAD FOLLOWED ME INTO THE LOWER DECKS OF MY STRANDED CARGO SHIP BECAUSE HE NEEDED ME.
HE'S TAKEN THE CIVILIAN TERRAFORMING BASE AND TURNED IT INTO A BREEDING STATION. ALL THE COLONISTS ARE DEAD. ONLY A FEW OF US KNOW THE TRUTH.
SPEARS BELIEVED, AND THE PURITY OF HIS BELIEF WAS TERRIFYING.
NO ONE IS SAFE. SPEARS HAS WIRED THE ENTIRE COMPOUND — HIS STAFF MONITORS THE SENIOR OFFICERS 24 HOURS A DAY.
NO.
EVERY FEW DAYS, SOMEONE DISPLEASES HIM. THEY JUST— DISAPPEAR—
I UNDERSTOOD COMPLETELY. IN MANY WAYS I SHARED THE INTENSITY OF THE GENERAL'S VISION.
WE HAVE TO FIND A WAY TO STOP HIM— BEFORE THE MADNESS GOES TOO FAR.

MEDICAL TYPES LOOK AT INSANITY LIKE SOME SORT OF DISEASE, BUT I THINK IT'S MORE MECHANICAL THAN THAT. LIKE A BROKEN CONNECTION, OR A MALFUNCTIONING COMPUTER CHIP.
LIFE, THOUGHT, EMOTION — JUST ELECTRICAL PULSES PASSING BETWEEN DIFFERENT LOBES OF THE BRAIN.
GENERAL, WE'VE FOUND A NEW QUEEN IN THE LOWER LEVEL, NEAR THE UNDERGROUND ACCESS TUBES. WE'RE SENDING IN A PROBE TO MEASURE THE SIZE OF THE –

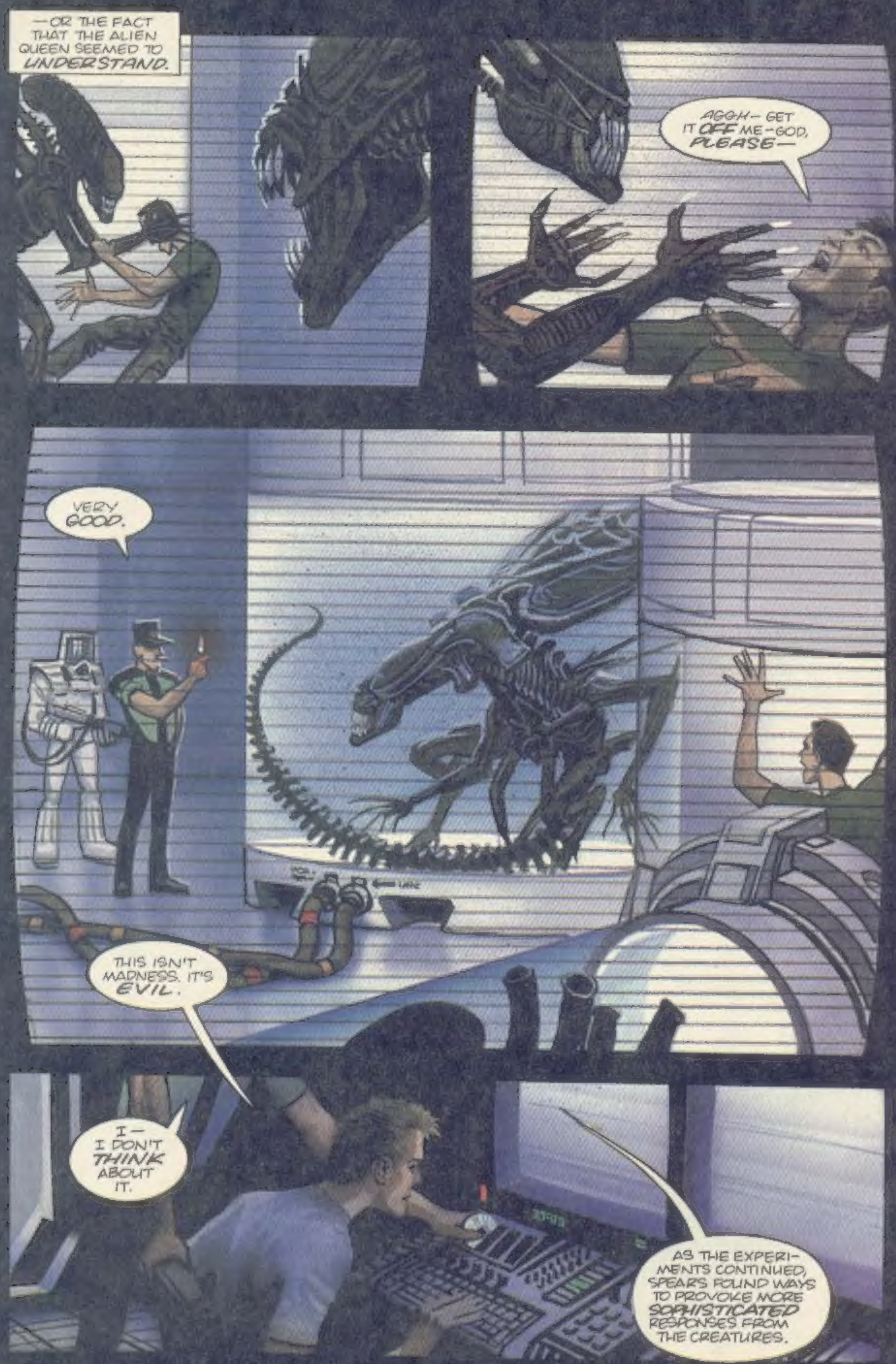
WHEN SOMETHING MECHANICAL FAILS, YOU DON'T WASTE TIME WITH PSYCHOLOGY. YOU EITHER REPAIR IT — OR YOU REPLACE IT.
I KNEW I'D HAVE TO KILL HIM.

SIR-- GET AWAY FROM THE EGGS! THEY'RE DANGEROUS--
WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR? THOSE THINGS--
SHUT UP, FOR CHRIST'S SAKE-- HE MIGHT HEAR YOU--
DON'T BE AFRAID, SON-- THEY DON'T WANT TO HURT US.
CAN'T YOU FEEL IT?
I KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE TO BE BORN INTO PAIN. I WAS ONE OF THE FIRST PRODUCTS OF THE MILITARY'S BIRTHING PROGRAM.
S-- SIR-- WE SHOULD START BACK TO THE MAIN FACILITY. ROBINSON'S PREDICTING A FORCE 10 STORM WITHIN THE HOUR.
--THEY TOOK AWAY THE ONLY THING THAT MAKES US REAL-- SOMETHING THE ALIEN CREATURES SHARE ABOVE ALL ELSE--
GESTATED OUTSIDE THE WOMB, NURSED INSIDE A STERILE BREEDER, THE GENETICISTS DIDN'T THINK IT WOULD MATTER--
--THE BOND OF FLESH--

I DON'T SEE HOW SPEARS PLANS TO USE THE CREATURES — YOU CAN'T TRAIN THESE THINGS, ANYMORE THAN YOU CAN TRAIN A RABID DOG —
THERE'S SOMETHING YOU SHOULD SEE.
THE GENERAL COMMANDEERED THE TERRAFORMING COLONY TO USE AS A TEST SITE. HE WANTED TO ACCLIMATE THE ALIEN TO HUMAN AUTHORITY.
HIS TECHNICIANS KEPT CAREFUL VIDEO LOGS OF THE EXPERIMENTS.
THE COLONISTS WERE TOLD THAT A NEW STRAIN OF VIRULENT BACTERIA HAD BEEN FOUND, A BY-PRODUCT OF THE NASCENT TERRAFORMING PROCESS.
SPEARS USED THE RUSE AS AN EXCUSE TO SEAL THE COLONISTS INTO SEPARATE QUARANTINED CELLS.
WE KNEW FROM THE EARTH TRANSMISSIONS THAT THE QUEEN COMMUNICATED WITH ITS DRONES THROUGH AN EMPHATIC MENTAL LINK —
SPEARS WAS GOING TO USE THAT.

THE LESSONS BEGAN ALMOST IMMEDIATELY.
NO— GOD, NO—!
YOU NEVER FORGET THE SCREAMS— NEVER—
THAT'S ENOUGH. BURN IT.
SKREEEEEEE

HE FORCED THE QUEEN TO WATCH AS HE BURNED ITS CHILDREN.
SKREEEEEEEEEE
WHAM!
OVER HERE!
NO.
AS THE SESSIONS CONTINUED, I'M NOT SURE WHAT WAS MORE FRIGHTENING — GENERAL SPEARS AND HIS METHODS—


—OR THE FACT THAT THE ALIEN QUEEN SEEMED TO UNDERSTAND.
AGGH— GET IT OFF ME—GOD, PLEASE—
VERY GOOD.
THIS ISN'T MADNESS. IT'S EVIL.
I— I DON'T THINK ABOUT IT.
AS THE EXPERIMENTS CONTINUED, SPEARS FOUND WAYS TO PROVOKE MORE SOPHISTICATED RESPONSES FROM THE CREATURES.

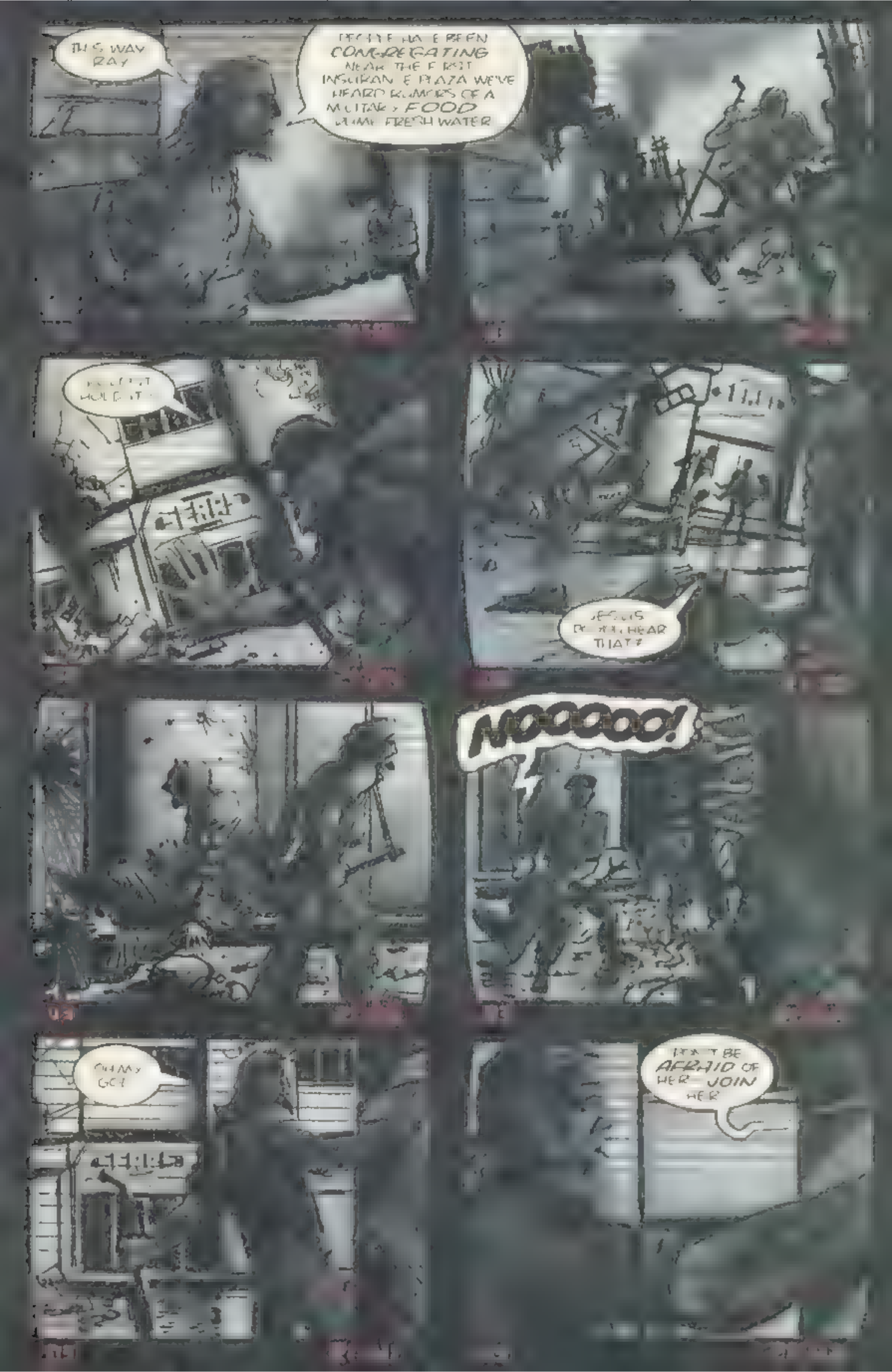
HE WANTED TO MAKE THE THINGS NOT SPEARS, HE WANTED THEM TO FOLLOW ORDERS, LIKE ANY OTHER GRUNT
USK
AAAAAA
THERE WERE MISSTEPS ALONG THE WAY, BUT SPEARS DEALT WITH THEM AS HE DEALT WITH ANY EXTRANEOUS INTERFERENCE
DON'T PLAY GAMES WITH ME DAMN IT
I'LL BURN EVERYONE OF YOUR PRECIOUS CHILDREN UNTIL YOU LEARN RESPECT-!

HE WANTED TO MAKE THE THINGS INTO SOLDIERS, HE WANTED THEM TO FOLLOW ORDERS LIKE ANY *OTHER* GRUNT
EEEEEAAAAAHHHHHHHHHHHHH
THERE WERE *MISSTEPS* ALONG THE WAY, BUT SPEARS DEALT WITH THEM AS HE DEALT WITH ANY EXTRANEOUS INTERFERENCE.
HHHHHH
DON'T PLAY *GAMES* WITH ME DAMMIT.
I'LL BURN EVERY *ONE* OF YOUR PRECIOUS CHILDREN UNTIL YOU LEARN *RESPECT*--!

NEAR
PREPARE
THEIR JOURNEY
EARTH
PREPARE THEM FOR HIS WAR.
THIS ISN'T ABOUT EARTH. IT'S MORE THAN THAT - SOMETHING TO DO WITH DEAD AND THE CREATURES -
THINGS
KNOW
THE GENERAL'S PARTY
DELAYED BY A
OUTSIDE THE
FIVE HOURS - MAYBE
FIVE HOURS, NOT MUCH TIME
CHANCE,
TRANSPORT
ALONE -
WORD
SURVIVAL.

DREAMING--
CAMPBELL
INTO THE
HAPPENING

UNDERSTAND
SAY WHEN YOU'RE THROUGH WHY DON'T WE GET TOGETHER IN THE REC AREA PLAY LET'S PRETEND WITH SOME OF THAT BONUS MONEY JEAN'S HAS WAITING FOR US ON EARTH
YEAH SURE WHATEVER
HER FEAR HER PAIN. I WILL DO ANYTHING TO GET THE REAL BACK. ANY WAY MY CONSCIOUSNESS TO WHAT I WAS BEFORE—
DADDY, I'M SCARED. IT'S GETTING DARK AGAIN
BEFORE IT ALL HAD DIED—
GETTING MORE DIFFICULT TO MAINTAIN THE UPLINK. ONCE THE CREATURES DESTROY THE RELAY STATION WE'LL BE CUT OFF
WE'LL KEEP TRANSMITTING UNTIL


THIS WAY RAY
COMMUNITY
FOOD
FRESH WATER
NOOOOOO!
OH MY GOD
AFRAID OF HER
JOIN HER

LOVES
ALL

YOU'RE ONLY MAKING IT HARDER— ONCE SHE JOINS WITH YOU THE EFFECT WILL BE PAIN—

DON'T BE DECEIVED BY THE MINIMAL TOUCH

ENJOY THE PEACE THAT COMES FROM BEING WITH GOD—

FINALLY!

DADDY—!

JESUS— I'M BEHIND

DADDY

KEEP THEM AWAY! DON'T LET THEM TAKE HER!

SOMEBODY HELP!

—PLEASE— PL—

TFFUHHHHHH

ARMS.

KCHUNK
BRRABUDDABUDDA
WHA-?
NOBODY MOVES.
NEWT LET OVER HERE
WHAT THE HELL
GENERAL SPEARS IS ON HIS WAY BACK FROM THE TERRAFORMING COLONY UNTIL HE ARRIVES I'LL BE HANDLING ALL COMMUNICATIONS. I WILL RELIEVE HIM OF HIS COMMAND
I'LL BE HANDLING COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE OBSERVATION DECK
KILLZZZT
BUDDA
BUDDA
BUDDA!
AM I MAKING MYSELF CLEAR?

POWELL HAS HIS MEN INSIDE THE LOADING BAY WAITING FOR THE GENERAL'S TRANSPORT. WE HAVE THE ELEMENT OF SURPRISE BUT—

—BUT GEARS WILL DIE BEFORE HE GIVES UP HIS COMMAND

THIS IS BULLSHIT. THE GENERAL WAS GOING TO TAKE CARE OF US WHEN THIS WAS ALL OVER—

YOU'RE BLOWING IT, MAN—

SHUT UP AND KEEP MOVING

I WANT WHAT MINE –
KRAC
KSSSH
AGGHHYGG
SQUUGG
HAF
EVERYBODY OUT!
SEAL THE DOOR!
THE BITCH WANTS OUT THEY ALL WANT OUT

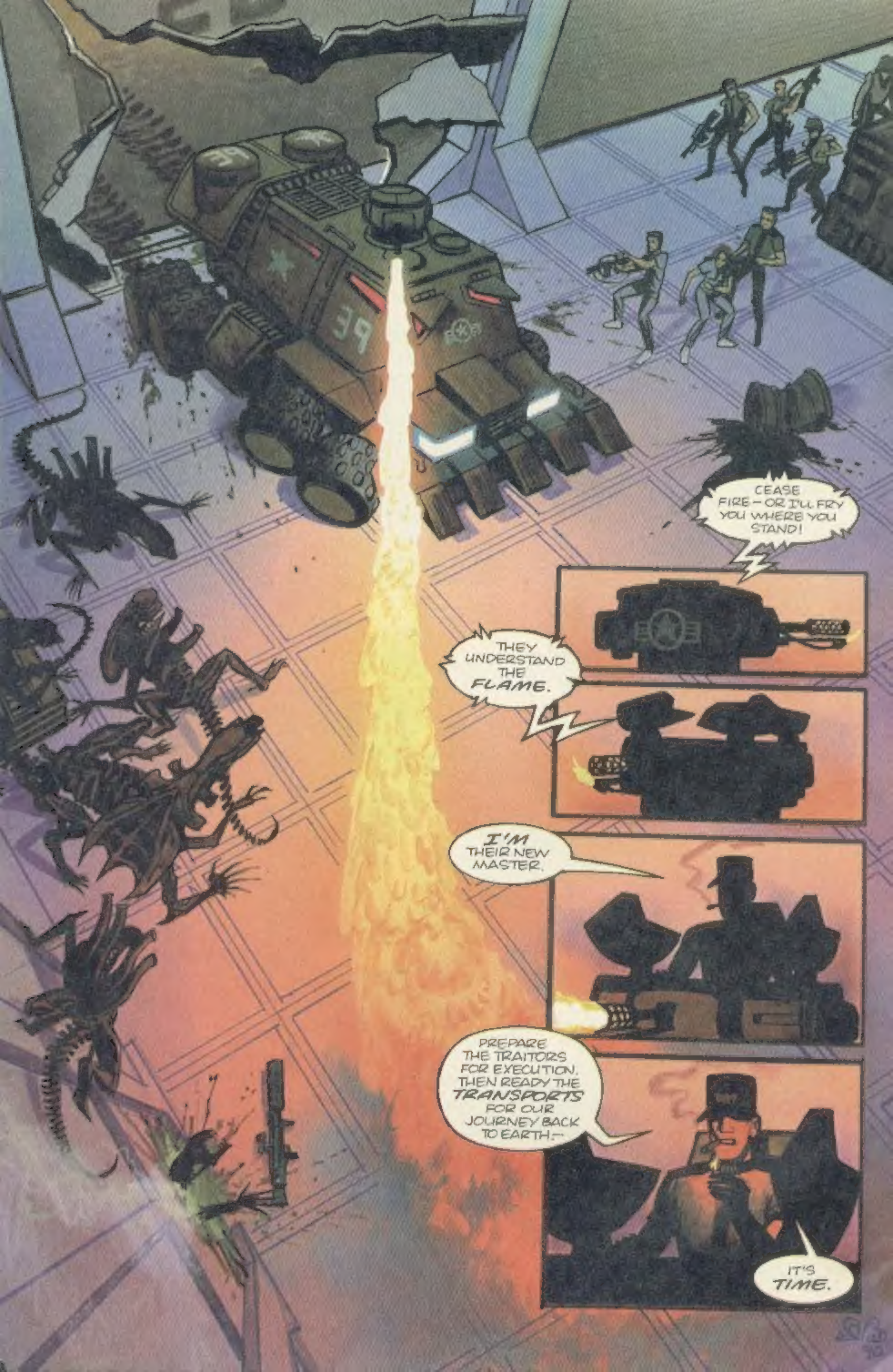
KRAAK
KAK
C'MON NEWT - MOVE IT!
BEEEEEEE
KISS THIS, YOU UGLY BASTARD-!

SOMETHING'S STRANGE HERE GENERAL
LT POWELL'S HANDING ON THE ADVANCING TEAM OF LT KELLNER, AND THE STANDARD ACCESS CHANNEL HAVE GONE DEAD. WE
JESUS, SIR! I'M GETTING AN AUTOMATIC ALARM ON THE CENTRAL HOLDING FACILITY -
THERE THERE'S BEEN A BREECH—
KCHICK
BREAK OFF OUR APPROACH AND WAIT FOR MY INSTRUCTIONS.
DIDN'T FIGURE IT WOULD BE POWELL— BUT WHAT THE HELL WHEN THE CAT'S AWAY
DAMN— HE'S VEERING OFF
HE KNOWS—

WE HAVE TO GET TO THE DOCKING BAY. POWELL'S ALREADY IN POSITION, AND THE —
MY GOD, HICKS — WHAT ABOUT THE OTHERS?
BUDDABUDDA BU
SKREEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEE
THEY WOULD HAVE KILLED US FOR A FEW CREDITS — THE GENERAL'S PROMISES OF GLORY —
SCREW 'EM.
BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA
LOADING BAY
08
SHIT, THEY'RE SPREADING OUT ACROSS THE BASE —!
JUST LIKE BEFORE — ACHERON, EARTH —
YOU NEVER STOP THEM —
—YOU ONLY SURVIVE—
CLICK!

HHHHHHHHHHH
NOOOOO!
BLOOM
KREECK
THOSE THINGS ARE INSIDE THE BASE. WE —
HICKS, LISTEN TO ME — SPEARS KNOWS — HIS GROUND TRANSPORT DISAPPEARED OFF SCREEN. HE MUST BE JAMMING THE SIGNAL SO HE CAN—
FORGET SPEARS.
WE HAVE TO PROGRAM ONE OF THE GRAVITY DRIVE TRANSPORTS FOR LAUNCH — WE'VE GOT TO LEAVE, NOW—
CHRIST — IT TAKES HOURS TO PROGRAM A LAUNCH!

I WANTED TO BE BRAVE — I WANTED TO PRETEND THAT MY DEATH WOULD MEAN SOMETHING.
SHORT BURSTS — CONSERVE YOUR AMMUNITION —
— SAVE THE LAST ROUNDS FOR YOURSELF.
— BUT THE TIME FOR SELF-DECEPTION HAD LONG PASSED.
BRATT
I TRIED TO REMEMBER MY MOTHER AND FATHER. I TRIED TO REMEMBER THEIR LOVE — BUT COULDN'T. IT WAS ALL SO LONG AGO, SO DISTANT — THEN I THOUGHT OF BUTLER, AND I BEGAN TO CRY —
COME ON, DAMN IT — LET'S FINISH IT —


CEASE FIRE – OR I'LL FRY YOU WHERE YOU STAND!
THEY UNDERSTAND THE FLAME.
I'M THEIR NEW MASTER.
PREPARE THE TRAITORS FOR EXECUTION. THEN READY THE TRANSPORTS FOR OUR JOURNEY BACK TO EARTH.–
IT'S TIME.